

## Acknowledgement

I thank Mr. J. M. Nelson (Nature Conservancy Council, Edinburgh) for arranging our visit to Ben Heasgarnich.

## References

- Benson, R. B., 1958. Hymenoptera Symphyta. *Handbk. Ident. Br. Insects*, 6 (2c): 139-252.
- Benson, R. B., 1961. *Pachynematus arcticus* (Lindqvist) Comb. Nov., a new British Sawfly in Sutherland (Hym., Tenthredinidae). *Entomologist's mon. Mag.*, 96: 137-138.
- Benson, R. B., 1964. *Pachynematus glabriceps* Lindqvist, a new British Sawfly and a note on *Empria liturata* Gmelin (Hym., Tenthredinidae)., *Entomologist's mon. Mag.*, 100: 263-4.
- Hellen, W., 1960. Die Nematinen Finnlands (Hym., Tenthred.). I. Tribus Pseudodineurini, Cladiini und Nematini part. *Notulae Ent.*, 40: 1-18. . . . .
- Lindqvist, E., 1958. Neue Blattwespen aus Fennoskandien (Hym., Tenthred.). *Notulae Ent.*, 38: 68-72.
- Lindqvist, E., 1970. Neue Nematinen aus dem Pribaikal-Gebiet, Siberien (Hymenoptera, Tenthredinidae). *Notulae Ent.*, 50: 97-104.
- Lindqvist, E., 1972. Zur Nomenklatur und Taxonomie einiger Blattwespen (Hymenoptera, Symphyta). *Notulae Ent.*, 52: 65-77.

## Notes and Observations

A STRANGE CASE OF LARVAL DEPRAVITY. — 1981 was not the most productive season I can remember as the half-filled setting boards in my drying-cabinet will testify, but imagine my anger when perusal of these boards late in September revealed damage to many of the specimens. I searched diligently for the tell-tale exit holes and small piles of minute frass that betrays the presence of *Anthrenus museorum*, the 'Collectors-friend'. Instead of the characteristic dry powder I found large, moist pellets of a lepidopteran origin. Minute examination revealed the half-inch long culprits. The larva, a noctuid, was dining out at the expense of his deceased brethren, so I confined his attentions to a large corpse of *Hyloicus pinastri* Linn., upon which he fed until pupation in late November.

I was rewarded for my labours on 26 February this year with the emergence of a fine, though rather dark, example of *Caradrina clavipalpis* Scop. I believe this is the first time that a noctuid larva has been reared exclusively upon a diet, although the habit is well established amongst some of the Oecophoridae, namely *Hoffmanophila pseudospretella* Stt., and *Endrosis sarcitrella* Linn. — MARK HADLEY, 2 Thompson Street, New Bradweel, Wolverton, Bucks.

PHYLLONORYCTER SAPORTELLA (DUPONCHEL) (HORTELLA FABRICIUS) IN EAST NORFOLK. — On the 8th of November 1981 my wife and I were making records in the Redgrave-Lopham area, where vice-counties 25, 26, 27 and 28 meet. There are fine roadside oaks on which I have found eight species of nepticulid, including the local *Ectoedemia quinquella* (Bedell). On this occasion, however, we were searching for *Caloptilia* cocoons; the early stages of *C. alchimiella* (Scopoli) and *C. robustella* Jäckh seem to be indistin-

guishable and I wanted to rear adults for recording purposes. At approximately TM 047802, just inside VC27, I picked several cocoons, one on a leaf which also bore a *Phyllonorycter* mine. The leaves were overwintered in a nylon stocking lying on the ground and were under snow during the severe weather. I brought them indoors on the 11th of February and four *C. robustella* emerged between the 9th and 13th of March. The *Phyllonorycter* mine produced a female *P. saportella* on the 26th of March.

This is apparently the first example of this species to be obtained in Britain since May, 1949, when Mr E. C. Pelham-Clinton found two adults on tree-trunks in Cambridgeshire, one near Madingley and the other near Gamlingay. In *The Field Guide* we stated "Not recorded in recent years" and this has not been contradicted. It has been suggested that the mines are seldom found because they occur high up on the oaks; that may sometimes be the case but this one was within easy reach.

The mine is situated on the margin of the leaf extending inwards from the tip of a lobe, the leaf-edge being completely folded over so as to conceal it. The lower epidermis is therefore almost obscured but appears to have numerous small creases. There is no central green patch on the upper surface because none of the palisade tissue has been eaten right through to the epidermis. The mine somewhat resembles that of *P. heegeriella* (Zeller) but is more strongly folded and is larger, measuring 12mm as opposed to 10mm or less in length. This account tallies with that given by Hering (*Bestimmungstabellen der Blattminen von Europa* 2: 826). For obvious reasons, the feeding was not described by Harper & Langmaid (*Ent. Rec.* 90: 162-166). If my mine is typical, there should be little difficulty in recognising other examples, providing they can be found. The mine is probably the hardest to detect of the oak-feeding *Phyllonorycter* because the pale lower surface is hidden and there is no discoloration on the upper side; at first sight, it looks more like a fold than a mine. I cannot describe the cocoon since I have given the mine unopened to Dr Ian Watkinson who is covering the genus in MBGBI Vol. 2.

Collectors have been searching assiduously but in vain for this species for many years: I bring a single mine home because it happens to be on the same leaf as something else and rear it by accident and unexpectedly. — A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3AF. 28.iii.1982.

MAGDALIS VIOLACEA L. (COL.: CURCULIONIDAE): CORRECTION OF A RECORD. — Although this species has now (probably correctly) been removed from the British list, there is a mid-century published record (G. E. Woodroffe, 1951, *Ent. mon. Mag.* 87: 255) of which I feel it incumbent on me to say something in clarification — in order to set the record straight and because the specimen in question is now in my collection. It was swept from broom at Culbin Sands, on the Moray Firth, 21.vi.51. Subsequent to publication, the late captor — a well-known hemipterist, who gave away most of his coleopterous captures — most kindly presented me with the insect, whose identification, he said, had not been and still was not free